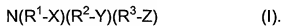


ABSTRACT

A reagent for use in immunoassays reduces interference in particle agglutination assays. The reagent contains particles having covalently bound antibodies and a tertiary amine compound of formula (I):



The moieties R^1 , R^2 , and R^3 are independently alkyl or alkyl ether. The moieties X, Y, and Z are independently $-\text{OH}$, $-\text{O}-\text{R}^4$, $-\text{S}-\text{R}^4$, $-\text{C}(=\text{O})-\text{OH}$, $-\text{C}(=\text{O})-\text{OR}^4$, or $-\text{C}(=\text{O})-\text{NHR}^4$ (R^4 is alkyl).